

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

PVR devices are improved with the addition of network connectivity, including, ethernet, HPNA, wireless (e.g., 802.11a, 802.11b, 802.11g), and powerline, and the inclusion of a virtual storage management system (VSM). The VSM allows the user to setup either parts of hard disks in computer systems on the network and/or allows a user to setup specific entire hard disk drive(s) in computers on the network to be used as storage space for programs recorded using the user's PVR. The virtual storage manager is provided with logic capable of dividing up the storage of programs in real time, that is, to store blocks of the program in different hard disk drives physically located at different locations on the network.